

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 923

By Curtiss

A RESOLUTION to congratulate James Lloyd Ellis upon his induction into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those citizens who, through unwavering dedication and unflagging commitment to excellence, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is James Lloyd "Jimmy" Ellis, who has devoted more than 40 years to the education and instruction of young students and athletes; on March 20, 2004, Mr. Ellis will be inducted into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame, a most befitting recognition of his outstanding service to Tennessee high schools; and

WHEREAS, born and raised in Petersburg, Tennessee, Mr. Ellis received his bachelor's degree from Middle Tennessee State College in 1958 and began his teaching and coaching career in the same year; he returned to Petersburg High School, his alma mater, in 1959 and was the head football and girls' basketball coach there until 1966, also serving as the school's principal from 1964-1966; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ellis moved to Lincoln Central High School in 1966 and remained in the area to serve as a coach, teacher, assistant principal, and athletic director for twenty-five outstanding years with Lincoln Central High School and Lincoln County High School; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Ellis brought great success to the girls' basketball program at Lincoln Central High School during his tenure as head coach, including district champion honors for the 1971-72 season, a regional championship honors in the 1975-76 season, and sub-state appearances by his 1975-76 and 1976-77 teams; and

WHEREAS, the significance of Mr. Ellis' impact cannot be adequately measured by winning seasons alone; his positive impact on the lives of students, athletes, fellow teachers, and administrators still resounds in the community today; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his duties at Lincoln High School, Jimmy Ellis found time to serve the high schools of the State of Tennessee as a Board of Control Member for the TSSAA from 1989-1991; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ellis' dedication and commitment to high school athletics did not diminish with his retirement from teaching in 1991; since retirement, Jimmy Ellis has continued to remain active in Tennessee high school athletics, serving as a volunteer assistant girls' basketball coach during the 1995-96 season; and

WHEREAS, a pillar of the Lincoln County community, Mr. Ellis is a devout Christian and an active member and elder at Mimosa Church of Christ; and

WHEREAS, throughout his illustrious career, Jimmy Ellis has been supported by his loving wife, Fredna Russell Ellis, his three daughters, and his seven grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, for the above accomplishments, his impeccable moral standards, and impressive work ethic, Mr. Ellis has been selected for induction into the TSSAA Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ellis, as a man of true character and commitment, exemplifies the type of selfless community servant and civic leader whom fellow Tennesseans admire for their tireless efforts to mould the State's youth, guiding them with solid principles and high standards whether on the athletic fields or in the classroom; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join the family and friends of James Lloyd "Jimmy" Ellis in congratulating him upon his enshrinement in the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame, honor, and commend Mr. Ellis for his substantial legacy as a teacher, coach, and administrator in the education community of Tennessee, and offer our thanks for the dedication which he has shown our State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.